

# WØMTL — Hannibal Amateur Radio Club News — WØKEM

## JANUARY, 2010



A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
2010

### HARC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: HOWARD BARNES, KØDFW  
V-PRES: J.D. SINCLAIR, WØAJD  
SECRETARY: FRED MILLER, KBØWIL  
TREASURER: TONY GILLILAND, WØPGL  
TRUSTEE: CLIFF AHRENS, KØCA  
EDITOR: BONNIE SINCLAIR, WBØWAP

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**Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday  
JANUARY 13, at 7:30 PM**

Note: Due to WEATHER, December meeting  
was canceled and election of officers  
rescheduled until January meeting.

Regular Meetings are held at Beth Haven Nursing Home, 2500 Pleasant St., Hannibal, Mo.  
Enter at the main entrance; turn left through the lounge area to the elevator. Take the elevator down to the first floor, and go to your right/left around the corner, down the hall to the cafeteria.

### **FCC VE TEST DATES FOR YEAR OF 2010** Hannibal, MO ARC 2010 Exam Dates

January 13th, 2010, April 14th, 2010

July 14th, 2010, October 13th, 2010

Exams will take place at 8:30 PM after the regular scheduled HARC meeting. The exam session will be at the Beth Haven Nursing Home, in the Cafeteria on the 1st (lower) Floor, 2500 Pleasant St., Hannibal, MO. Registration is required at least 72 hours before the exam session by contacting the team liaison, Fred Miller- KBØWIL at [kb0wil@arrrl.net](mailto:kb0wil@arrrl.net) or 573-221-2429.

The 2010 test fee will be unchanged at \$15.00. It goes to ARRL/VEC. Bring a photo ID (or two non-photo ID's); if currently licensed, bring the original and a photocopy of your valid FCC license; and if you are claiming credit for successful completion of an exam, bring the original and photocopy of any applicable CSCE's.

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### **HARC MONDAY NIGHT NET** **CALL LIST OF VOLUNTEER OPERATORS** JANUARY 2010

4	WØAJD	JD
11	WØPGL	TONY
18	KØDFW	HOWARD
26	N9UPG	BILL

**THANKS TO ALL!**

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## HANNIBAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES



Minutes by: Fred-KBØWIL HARC-Secretary

**Note: Due to WEATHER, December meeting was canceled**

### **HARC Officer Nominations for 2010**

***Current officers: President: Howie-KØDFW, Vice President J.D.-WØAJD, Treasurer Tony-WØPGL, Secretary, Fred-KBØWIL and Newsletter Editor Bonnie-WBØWAP.***

### **Members nominated:**

President; Howie-KDØDFW  
Vice President; Luan-KC9PGS  
Treasurer; Tony-WØPGL  
Secretary; Fred-KBØWIL

We will take final nominations at the meeting on January 13th, 2010, since the meeting in December was cancelled due to bad weather, then vote. If you wish to be an officer, then plan on attending, and put your name in the hat.

### **HARC 2009 Member Of The Year.**

We also took nominations for the HARC Member Of The Year Award

### **Members nominated:**

Cliff-KØCA  
Carol-WA9EFV  
Tony-WØPGL.

Each has done several things for the club over the years. We will take final nominations at the January 13th, 2010 meeting, and then vote. The club will present the award at the February 6th, 2010 supper/get together.

Fred-KBØWIL is responsible for taking care of the award purchase and layout.

### **FEBRUARY 2010 HARC SUPPER: SATURDAY, FEB 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2010**

We will have the clubs annual supper/get together

**February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010.**

**Saturday, at 6:00 PM,**

**Golden Corral Restaurant, Hannibal, Mo.**

This annual event is for club members and their families/guests, and anyone that is interested in Amateur Radio. Everyone is responsible for their own meal purchase. It will be held in the same room as last year, non-smoking section, up front. Fred-KBØWIL will take care of the reservation, for the room.

### **Breakfast Club Picnic:**

The BC picnic will be on July 16, 17, and 18th, 2010. It will be here in Hannibal Mo. Contact Carol-WA9EFV, Tony-WØPGL, or J.D.-WØAJD if your interested in attending, or helping with the activities. More information will be forthcoming in future newsletters

**Note:** Mike -NA9Q will be doing the DX column, in the club newsletter starting in January 2010. The club would like to thank Cliff-KØCA for doing the DX column for the past eleven years, he always did an excellent job and made it very interesting.

**Note:** We will be having VE Testing on January 13th, 2010 directly after the club meeting, approximately 8:30PM.

### **HARC MEMBERS:**

Dues are now due for 2010 year. The membership dues are \$20.00 annually. Please pay Tony-WØPGL. You can pay him at the next meeting, or by sending them in to the club address

Hannibal Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 1522  
Hannibal, Mo. 63401

Thanks,  
Fred, KBØWIL -- HARC-Secretary E-:-)

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**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**  
**JANUARY 2010**  
**BY HOWARD BARNES K0DFW**



Hey! I might be writing this for the January session but it is the week before Christmas, and it is absolutely the best time of year, for we are celebrating the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ! This is an awesome time to reflect on life in general, and where you have been, and where you are going. It is a time to reflect back on Christmas past, and of the getting together with friends and relatives that are no longer with us and celebrating with new friends and new members of the family! Me.... I reflect back on the Christmas past when my parents would hide packages from us kids until Christmas. I think the biggest kids were the parents, because they ate it up too! Mom would always make homemade candies and cookies, and man, was she good at what she did. Nobody could top her fudge and divinity. That was an art in itself. I remember Christmas with a foot of snow on the ground, and 20 below zero. The colder it was the better the candies tasted! I also enjoy the Christmas present watching my 10 year old son growing into a young man. I hate to see him leaving the innocent age, and maturing, but that is part of life, and all that I can do is give him directions down life's road. I have introduced him to Jesus Christ, and now it is up to him to accept him. As the old saying is "you can lead them to water ..... But you can't make them drink it."

I'm sorry for calling off the December meeting, but I didn't want someone to slide off into the ditch, and freeze to death on my behalf. When those temperatures get down around zero, it is time

to stay in close to the home fire. We will have our club election at the January meeting, January 13, 2010. We also need to elect someone for the Amateur of the year award. So, come to the next meeting and we will get it done.

We will have our annual club dinner, which will be in February. We will give out the "Amateur of the Year Award" at this meeting. We won't do any club business that night; only enjoy each other's company. So, you want to make it!!!! We will have it on February 6, at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Hannibal. This dinner is open to anyone that is interested in Amateur Radio, and would like to visit with our local club members. All persons are responsible for payment of their own dinner.

The sunspot activity is starting to pick up a little, so you might want to get on the low bands, and try working some DX. Some members of the club have been racking up new countries, and making many overseas contacts. With the winter weather so cold, it is a good time to stay in and work some radio.

Well, I am going to keep this short, and just say,  
 Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
 May God Bless The USA And May God Bless You  
 And Yours!

73s Howard K0DFW

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**THANKS CLIFF, KOCA**

We want to thank you Cliff, for doing the DX section of the HARC newsletter for so many years. It has been of great interest to the many HAMS who love to DX. The article has been interesting and very informative. We will still be bugging you for info on many other things.





WELCOME MIKE, NA9Q

## DX Notes



I would like to begin by recognizing Cliff, K0CA, for his efforts of the past eleven years in authoring his DX Horizons column. Each and every month Cliff has kept us abreast of the expected activity on the HF bands as well as offering his seasoned and expert advice on many topics related to DX'ing. A job well done Cliff, thank you on behalf of the readers of both the WIARC Feedline and the HARC Newsletter. I can only hope that I can maintain the standard you have set for me to follow.

In DX News and Notes, I hope to continue to keep readers abreast of present and upcoming DX activity. Information of this type is essential to any DX'er, veteran or neophyte. Additionally each month, to help newcomers to DX'ing, I will delve a bit into some finer aspect of DX'ing that some of us veterans who have been in the chase for years take for granted.

**News for January:** At long last we may be seeing a measurable upturn in solar activity related to new cycle 24. On December 10<sup>th</sup>, sunspot group 1034 appeared and eventually produced a significant spots as well as a coronal hole with mass particle

ejection. Group 1035 followed 9 days later. Hopefully this signals the long expected upturn in solar activity associated with the new cycle. Just how fast the activity level will rise for this cycle remains to be seen. There are vastly varied predictions which have been published by the many experts in solar science but no one knows who is right. We can only wait and hope. I have not heard how the ARRL Ten Meter Test went but there may have been improved conditions because of the 1034 group. Keep an eye on 15M and 10M as openings could come at any time with sudden spurts with the increasing solar activity.

Low band conditions have certainly been good recently. The seasonal lull in geomagnetic activity has produced some very good conditions on 40 and 80 meters. I worked several deep pacific stations on 40 meters last week including E51NAA on 40 CW from the Southern Cooks. The next several weeks to months will be prime time to improve your numbers on these two bands. Look from late afternoon onward to early morning for good DX on both bands. And remember; look for DX stations above 7100 KHz now that band expansion has taken place in much of the rest of the world.

**Sri Lanka** - Look for 4S7KKG on 20M CW, RTTY, PSK. QSL to home call DC0KK.

**Greenland** - Fred OX3QM is active on 40M CW and will be there for the next year. QSL to home call KB4DMQ.

**Sudan** - Sea Scout special event station ST26ASC is active until the end of January. Activity has been on 20M SSB. QSL via ST2M.

**Mount Athos** - Monk Apollo SV2ASP/A is again active. He has been worked on 20M recently at 1300Z and 40M 1800-1900. Usually he is only on SSB. Be patient working him as his conditions are very minimal, runs low power and is but an occasional operator. Mt. Athos has a very interesting history and unique qualifications for DXCC status. For insight into this entity, go to <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE4AC3RY20081113>

**Antarctica** - Several stations plan to be active over the 6-12 Months. This includes R1ANP (QSL RW1AI) and DP1POL (QSL DL1ZO). Also look for KC4AAA.



**UAE** – Garry, VE6LB, will be active as A6/VE6LB from 8 January to 8 February. This will be a main CW vacation STYLE operation on 40m-15M. QSL home call or LoTW.

**Wake Is.** – Colin, WA2YUN, is there on a 1-year assignment and will be active as work permits using his home call/KH9. QSL to K2PF.

**January Notes:** With every 'new one' snagged, the DXer faces the challenge of getting the DX station's confirmation, or QSL card. Each DX station will state a preferred route for you to use to send your card. He may tell you to QSL via the bureau (inexpensive but very slow), or to QSL direct (most expensive), or via a manager (much easier), or through LoTW (very simple and inexpensive).

This month I want to pass along a few tips on QSL'ing to stations requesting a direct mailing. As this represents the most expensive method, one should be very careful to ensure the best possible results. First, in addressing the envelope to the DX station, make sure you have the most up to date info. Many on-line call books now include foreign stations and this should represent the best source. That said; also keep an eye on any notices in the several DX bulletins for updates or corrections. Next, never put any reference to ham radio such as a call sign on the envelope. This is a red flag to foreign postal workers that there may be valuable items inside and as a result the envelope may arrive less those items. Third, always include a pre-addressed return envelope, again with no call sign. Here it may get tricky as QSL cards, particularly foreign cards, come in all sizes many larger than the standard US postcard size. If his card won't fit in your envelope, the card may end up in his round file. I always use a European DL size return envelope which will easily handle a 4 in. x 5 in. card. The DL format can be hard to find in the US but as a sub, look for invitation sized envelopes (4-3/8 x 5-1/2) as these are very close in size and can be found at stores such as Staples or Office Depot.

Now, the DX op will expect you to supply return postage. If the DX op's preference is unstated, you have a choice. Two or three 'green stamps' or the same in IRC's (International Reply Coupons) are most commonly accepted to cover return postage (remember, US stamps are of no value overseas). IRC's can be purchased at any US post office and

the DX station can trade IRC's for local postage. But they cost \$2.10 each and usually a minimum of two is required for a return so three green stamps are cheaper. Unfortunately there is no guarantee that you will always get a reply.

Next month I'll continue this topic looking at proper time and date formatting, the best QSL card designs for given situations and other tricks of the trade.

Good hunting on the bands... and remember, always listen, listen, listen before calling.

73, and good DX, Mike, NA9Q

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### **Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club Amateur Radio License Class Scheduled for January 2010**

The Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club will be holding a license class on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 PM beginning January 5, 2010. There will be 10 sessions including the official exam which is scheduled for Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. The club is planning two separate classes. The first is the entry level leading to the Technician license and the second is an upgrade class leading to the General or Extra license. Both classes will be held simultaneously at the consulting engineering firm of Poepping Stone Bach Assoc (PSBA) which is located at 100 S. 54<sup>th</sup> St. in Quincy about ½ mile south of Home Depot.

The class leading to the Technician license will consist of lecture and demonstrations as well as Q&A. The text is "The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, 3<sup>rd</sup> Printing." A copy of this book will be available at the first session or ahead of time at the special price of \$20. Call Todd, AB9QW, at 217-593-7490 or email at [toddc@psba.com](mailto:toddc@psba.com) to reserve a copy.

The class leading to the General or Extra license will be in Q&A format. Using the available high speed internet connection, it will be possible to try sample tests on-line using the instructor's laptop computer. The text for the General License is: "The ARRL General Class License Manual for Ham



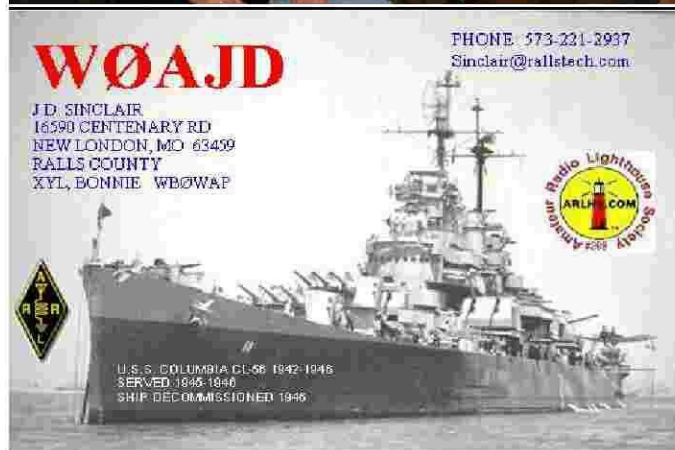
Radio, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition." For the Extra License, the text is: "The ARRL Extra Class License Manual for Ham Radio, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. The special price for either manual is \$20. Contact Todd, AB9QW, to reserve a copy.

All of those with interest from the Hannibal area are invited to attend.

HARC members are asked to mention the course to friends and neighbors. A flyer describing the course and providing a map is available at the WIARC website: go to [www.w9awe.org](http://www.w9awe.org). At the home page, click on "Introductory License Classes Begin January 5<sup>th</sup> ...."

## HAMS OF THE MONTH

### J. D. SINCLAIR, W0AJD



I became interested in ham radio in the late 50's, & 60's. W0CJH, Frank Brashears, really kept my interest up. I talked on his station many times. Family and jobs delayed me getting my license until 1974. I was licensed as WB0VHG, and upgraded to General about 1999, and then I got my Extra in 2005. I am active on 20 & 80 meters most of the time. I have worked WAS, WAC, DXCC, (#243), Breakfast club #2821, ARLHS #269, Geratol #2505, Director #602, QCWA #33830. I like working Special events, and just Rag chewing. I will Qsl 100 percent. Our club, Hannibal Amateur Radio Club, has several special events each year. We always try to advertise in QST. My wife, Bonnie, WB0WAP is also an extra class. Now you know why I am not on the air all the time. If you hear me on the air give me a call. I monitor 14.305 some of the time. The main equipment here is a Kenwood TS 2000, Kenwood 520, Kenwood TI 922 amplifier. Antenna, Cushcraft A4S tribander Alfa Delta Buckmaster inverted V, Both up about 60 ft. Also have A Set of TCS 13's Transmitter and Receiver - Navy 1943 units, that I hope to have on the air some time. After joining the Navy, I served aboard the USS Columbia CL56 in 1945 and 46. That is why I have a picture of the Columbia on my QSL cards.

73 J.D. - W0AJD

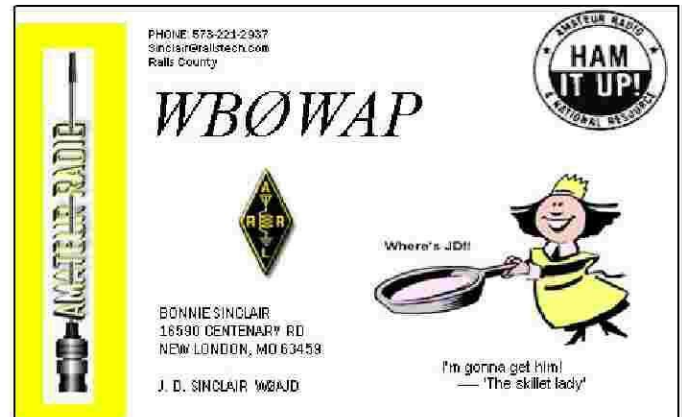
### BONNIE SINCLAIR, WB0WAP



I became interested in ham radio in the early 70's. Danny Bridges and Benny Benway was a great influence in getting me to take the plunge, and get my ham license. Which I did in 1974, and my call

was, and still is WBØWAP. Oh, of course, that was around the time when J. D., WØAJD, and I got married. So, I guess he had a little to do with my getting my license. Do you think that I was going to let him get ahead of me! I got my extra class in 2005 also. Anyway, even though I am not out there on the frequencies much, I do enjoy the hobby, and plan to continue my interest for a while yet. I think a lot of the hams that J. D. talks with, knows me as the skillet lady. (See my QSL card ) Can you imagine! Who else is going to put those lumps on J.D.'s noggin. Last year at our club get together in February, I got a gift of a hammer to keep J. D. in line. Nancy got one to keep Carol, W9EFV in line also. It is not as good as my iron skillet, but a good substitute! (Poor JD)

We were living in Fort Myers, FL from 1985 to 1997, so we got interested in the local club there, and have kept in touch with some of the members since coming back home to Missouri. However, now we are very active in the HARC Club in Hannibal, MO. - J.D. is the VP of the club at present, and I am the newsletter editor, and a proud member of the Breakfast Club. We participate in most of the club activities, and really enjoy all the friends we have made. There is always something to do in the club, and if not, we try to make something up. Last year, the LST ship came into the port of Hannibal, and J.D. set it up with the ship's captain that our club was to operate from their radio room on board, and it was a lot of work, but oh, what an enjoyable time everyone had. It was the first time that local hams got to operate out of the ships radio room. J.D. got the 'Member of the Year' award for that project.



I get the radio in the kitchen, sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't!! Wonder why that one is considered mine and not the 2000???? See why the hammer and the skillet!!

Happy  
New Year!



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